

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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R 281230Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3715

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS CAPE TOWN 0060

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS : PFOR, SF, US

SUBJ : MINISTER INFORMATION MULDER COMMENTS ON HIS VISIT
TO U.S.

REF : CAPE TOWN 0046 (NOTAL)

1. SPEAKING TO JOURNALISTS AT JAN SMUTS AIRPORT ON HIS ARRIVAL FROM U.S. JANUARY 27, MIN INFORMATION DR. C.P. MULDER DESCRIBED HIS TOUR OF U.S. AS 'VERY FRUITFUL.' HE TOLD NEWSMEN THAT BEFORE LEAVING SOUTH AFRICA MK HAD DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WITH FONMIN MULLER AND PRIME MINISTER VORSTER HIS SCHEDULED INTERVIEW WITH VICE PRESIDENT FORD, AND WOULD REPORT BACK TO THEM SOON AFTER GOING TO CAPE TOWN. MULDER SAID VICE PRESIDENT GERD WAS 'A VERY LEVEL-HEADED AND PRACTICAL MAN.' WHOSE OPEN MIND HAD MADE FRANK AND USEFUL EXCHANGE POSSIBLE. HE DECLINED RELATE DETAILS OF THEIR DISCUSSION BUT SAID HE WAS CONVINCED THEY WERE WORTHWHILE.

2. MULDER FOUND LOS ANGELES MAYOR TOM BRADLEY 'A VERY SOPHISTICATED MAN' WHO INTERESTED IN SOUTH AFRICA. THEY HAD, MULDER SAID, MANY THINGS IN COMMON INCLUDING AN INTEREST IN UNCLASSIFIED

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LOCAL POLITICS AND MUTUAL CONCERN FOR POLITICAL RIGHTS.

AFTER THEIR 'FRANK' DISCUSSIONS, MR.BRADLEY HAD 'A BETTER VISION OF SOUTH AFRICA,' ACCORDING TO MULDER. CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR REAGAN,MULDER SAID, WAS VERY HELPFUL AND NOT THE EXTREME RIGHT-WINGER WHICH SOME THOUGHT HIM TO BE. THEIR TALKS WERE LARGELY CONCERNED WITH ECOLOGY. MULDER SAID HE WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH CONGRESSMAN THOMAS MORGAN, CHAIRMAN OF HOUSE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

3. IN A GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF HIS TRIP,MULDER SAID THAT HE BELIEVES LEADING AMERICANS ARE PREPARED TO TAKE A NEW LOOK AT SOUTH AFRICA. HE SAID,'I FOUND A MUCH BETTER UNDERSTANDING AND FRANKNEEDLAND I THINK THIS SHOULD BE FOLLOWED UP IN THE RIGHT CHANNELS AND IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. AMERICANS, IN HIS OPINION, HAVE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING BOTH OF SA'S STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE AND OF ITS DOMESTIC PROBLEMS. WITH AMERICAN LEADERS NOW TAKING WHAT HE REGARDED AS A LESS EMOTIONAL,MORE PRACTICAL VIEW OF SA, DR.MULDER EXPECTED NO NEW USG INITIATIVES AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

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